

Social and Environmental Trade-Offs in African Agriculture

Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to share with you today a special edition of our newsletter focused on a new, free online training tool offered by the Sentinel project on Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP), a widely used multi-criteria analysis tool to support the analysis of trade-offs in land-use decision making. This training series is available now on the [Sentinel website](#).

We hope this [new tool](#) will allow researchers and land use managers alike to make land use more sustainable. With this extra tool in the box, committing to conserve Africa's forests while also achieving zero hunger may just become possible.

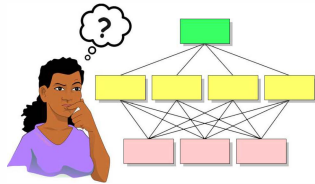


Background Blog

[From New Zealand to Africa: managing land use trade-offs](#)

Xiaoting Hou-Jones

In this blog, Xiaoting Hou-Jones shares how this exciting new training tool was inspired by a decision-making framework designed by a team from Lincoln University, New Zealand, and evolved through trials in Ghana and Zambia. She also looks at how this new tool allows for easy, flexible decision making and provides an excellent new tool for sustainable land management.



A new Training Tool

[Analysing trade-offs in land-use decision-making: Learning to use AHP as a tool - An overview](#)

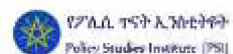
Land management decisions often involve many trade-offs given the many competing uses for limited resource: for example, using land for timber, for conservation, or for agriculture production. In addition, many different groups may use the same patch of land and have different priorities on how they wish the land to be used.

It is increasingly important for researchers, policy makers and other decision-makers to better understand and manage those trade-offs. Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) is a widely used multi-criteria analysis. It supports decision-makers to analyse trade-offs among multiple and competing objectives, and to make informed decisions that explicitly acknowledge those trade-offs.

This virtual training aims to help researchers learn how to use AHP in their research to better understand and support management of those important land use trade-offs.

The training is split into 3 modules, [which can be accessed from the overview section](#), and each module comes with supporting material to complement your learning.

Sentinel is an interdisciplinary research project seeking to address the challenge of achieving 'zero hunger' in sub-Saharan Africa, while at the same time reducing inequalities and conserving ecosystems.



This email is from International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), 235 High Holborn, Holborn, London WC1V 7DN

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